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DEC 17 2004

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No. PC18132A

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent facsimile to: USPTO, Hon. Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 via, facsimile number 703-872-9308. Attn: Examiner Delia M. Ramirez, on this 17 day of December, 2004.

By

Kathleen A. Ranney

(Signature of person faxing)
Kathleen A. Ranney

(Typed or printed name of person)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Patricia Soulard et al.

APPLICATION NO.: 09/966,781

: Examiner: Delia M. Ramirez

FILING DATE: 09/28/01

: Group Art Unit: 1652

**TITLE: POLYPEPTIDES EXHIBITING PDE7
ACTIVITY AND THEIR USE FOR SELECTING
COMPOUNDS WHICH INHIBIT PDE7
ENZYME ACTIVITY**

Mail Stop Amendment
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT A

This is in reply to the Office Action mailed June 17, 2004 in the above-identified Application and having an original period of response of three months.

A Petition for Extension of Time Pursuant to 37 §1.136(a) is being filed herewith that respectfully requests that the term for response to the Examiner's Action in this Application, having an original period for response of three months, which expired on September 17, 2004, be extended by three months, such that it includes and expires on December 17, 2004.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

In response to the Office Action mailed June 17, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 3 of this Amendment.

*Fee Purpose
Only*

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01/07/2005 6:08:11 PM 161445

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above for the polypeptide disclosed in Han et al., the Hoffman et al. polypeptide is also not the polypeptide of the kit of presently amended claim 53.

Moreover, neither Hoffman et al. nor Han et al. teach the mutant of the presently claimed invention. In addition, neither Hoffman et al. nor Han et al. disclose the activity of the presently claimed mutant. Furthermore, neither Hoffman et al. nor Han et al. teach or suggest a kit to screen for compounds that inhibit PDE7. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to make the presently claimed kit and would also not have had a reasonable expectation of success.

For at least these reasons, Hoffman et al. in view of Han et al. would not have made the presently claimed invention prima facie obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

26. The subject matter of the presently pending claims was commonly owned the invention covered therein were made,

Conclusion

In view of the above remarks and amendments filed herewith, Applicants believe the Application and all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and such favorable action is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is respectfully urged to contact the undersigned attorney for purposes of favorable advancing the prosecution of this Application.

Date: 12/17/2004

Respectfully submitted,

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